REMARKS

Claims 1-3 are pending in this application. This response cancels all the claims and adds new claims 4-18. Support for new claims 4-18 can be found, for example, in the original claim set.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Eisenbrand (WO 00/61555). Applicants respectfully request reconsideration.

Claim 1 is canceled and new claims 4-18 are added, which are directed to the compounds of formulas (I), (II), (III), (IV), and (VI), and compositions containing these compounds. None of the compounds recited in claims 4-18 are disclosed in Eisenbrand. For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 4-18 are not anticipated by Eisenbrand. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-3 were rejected as being non-compliant with the enablement requirement of 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. Claims 2 and 3 were rejected as being non-compliant with the definiteness requirement of 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for not providing a sufficient antecedent basis. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration.

Without conceding to the propriety of the rejection and in order to expedite prosecution of this application, all the claims are canceled and the newly added claims recite the cell lines that the Examiner has deemed to be enabled. Claims 4-8 are directed to indirubin compounds and claims 9-18 are directed to compositions containing the indirubin compounds. The application discloses sufficient information and guidance to allow a person of ordinary skill in the art to make and use the claimed inventions without undue experimentation.

For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 4-18 are in compliance with the enablement requirement of 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, and request that the rejection be withdrawn.

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CLAIM OBJECTIONS

The objections to the claims are rendered moot by the cancellation of the pending claims.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative to discuss any issue that would expedite allowance of this application.

In the event that the filing of this response is deemed not timely, Applicants petition for an extension of time. The Commissioner is authorized to charge all required fees, fees under § 1.17, or all required extension of time fees, or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-0600 (Kenyon & Kenyon LLP).

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 22 April 2008